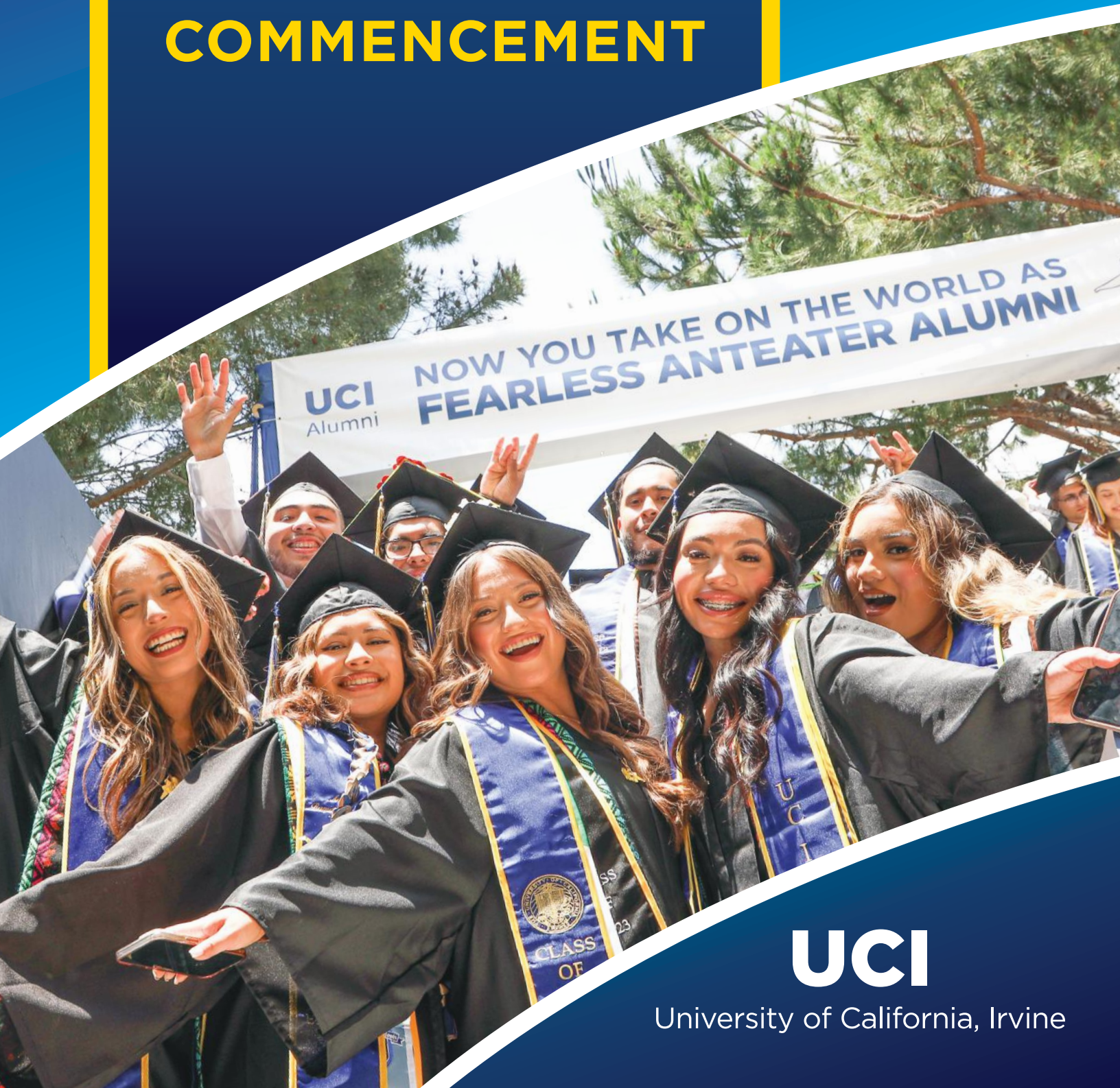
2023

DECEMBER COMMENCEMENT



UCI

University of California, Irvine

2023 COMMENCEMENT

BRILLIANT FUTURE

Baccalaureate and Master's Degrees
DECEMBER 18

UCI

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UCI

All-university December Commencement

Monday, December 18, 2023 10:00 A.M. **University-wide Ceremony**

Participants

Claire Trevor School of the Arts

School of Biological Sciences

The Paul Merage School of Business

School of Education

The Henry Samueli School of Engineering
Baccalaureate and Master's Candidates

School of Humanities

Donald Bren School of Information & Computer Sciences
Baccalaureate and Master's Candidates

School of Physical Sciences

Program in Public Health

School of Social Ecology

School of Social Sciences

December 18, 10:00 a.m. – Bren Events Center
Vice Chancellor Willie L. Banks Jr., Ph.D., presiding
University-wide Ceremony

CEREMONY

PROCESSIONAL

ACADEMIC PROCESSION	**Master's Degree Candidates** **Baccalaureate Candidates** **Platform Party**
NATIONAL ANTHEM	**Uniting Voices** UCI Student Acapella group
WELCOME	**Willie L. Banks Jr., Ph.D.** Vice Chancellor
REMARKS	**Howard Gillman** Chancellor
FEATURED SPEAKER INTRODUCTION	**Willie L. Banks Jr., Ph.D.** Vice Chancellor
FEATURED SPEAKER	**Meymuna Hussein-Cattan** Founder and CEO, The Tiyya Foundation
CONFERRING OF DEGREES	**Howard Gillman** Chancellor
CONCLUDING REMARKS	**Willie L. Banks Jr., Ph.D.** Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs

RECESSIONAL

PLATFORM PARTY

Howard Gillman
Chancellor

Hal Stern, Ph.D.
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor

Meymuna Hussein-Cattan
Featured Speaker

Gillian Hayes, Ph.D.
Vice Provost,
Graduate Education
Dean, Graduate Division

Michael Dennin, Ph.D.
Vice Provost,
Teaching and Learning
Dean, Division of
Undergraduate Education

Willie L. Banks Jr., Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs

Brian T. Hervey, CGPP, CFRE
Vice Chancellor,
University Advancement
& Alumni Relations

Steven A. N. Goldstein, M.D., Ph.D., FAAP
Vice Chancellor, Health Affairs

Sherry Main
Vice Chancellor,
Strategic Communications
and Public Affairs

Dyonne Bergeron
Vice Chancellor,
Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Lars Walton
Associate Chancellor
and Chief of Staff

Kate Brigman, M.P.A.
Associate Provost
and Chief of Staff

Tiffany Ana López, Ph.D
Dean, Claire Trevor School
of the Arts

Frank M. LaFerla, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Biological
Sciences

Ian O. Williamson, Ph.D.
Dean, Paul Merage
School of Business

Young-Suk Kim
Senior Associate Dean,
School of Education

Magnus Egerstedt
Dean, The Henry Samueli School
of Engineering

Tyrus Miller
Dean, School of Humanities

Marios Papaefthymiou
Dean, Donald Bren School
of Information and
Computer Sciences

James S. Bullock, Ph.D.
Dean, School of
Physical Sciences

Bernadette Boden-Albala, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Director and Founding Dean,
Program in Public Health

Susan Charles
Associate Dean,
School of Social Ecology

William Maurer, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Social Sciences

Neel Grover, '92
Mace Marshal

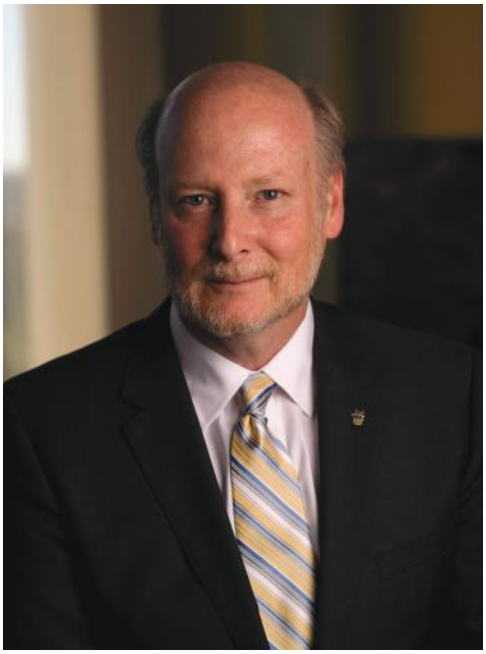
Professor Janice Hansen
University Marshal

Professor Hadar Ziv
Master's Marshal

Associate Dean
David Van Vranken
Baccalaureate Marshal

Associate Dean
Jeanett Castellanos
Platform Party Marshal

Message from the Chancellor



Dear Class of 2023:

Congratulations on reaching this very special milestone in your life. Today, as we celebrate the University of California, Irvine's 61st commencement, enjoy the pride, nostalgia, and excitement of the moment. As you participate in these time-honored graduation rites, I encourage you to remember that you did not achieve this success alone or in a vacuum. Please take the time to thank the family, friends, and mentors who have supported and shepherded you through this journey.

All of us are extremely proud of your accomplishments and the contributions you have made to UCI and our community. I am even more excited, though, by what lies ahead for you, as you enter the world enabled, empowered, and inspired to succeed in whatever endeavors you choose to pursue.

Today, as you join the proud alumni of UCI, you become part of a family of graduates who are leaders, innovators, and teachers who make a difference in our global community. Please come back and visit us, update us with news on your careers, and stay in touch through the Alumni Association. Wherever the future leads you, you will always be remembered at UCI.

Fiat Lux,

Howard Gillman
Chancellor

Message from the Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs

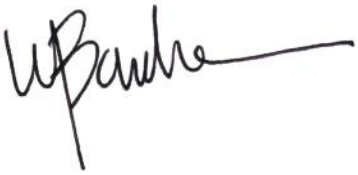
Dear Class of 2023 Graduates:

On behalf of the Division of Student Affairs, I would like to congratulate you and your family on this amazing accomplishment.

You are now a UCI graduate and now join the ranks of close to 200,000 alumni from across the world. You should be proud of all that you have accomplished during your time at UCI, especially during an unprecedented global pandemic. My sincere hope is that you have taken the past years to learn more about yourself, your community, and your academic major. College is truly a transformative time in one's life and I am sure you have taken everything you have learned during your collegiate time to transform not only yourself, but also the world.

As you close this chapter in your life, take some time and thank your family and friends for their support. Your graduation from UCI is a reflection of their love and support for you through this time. I hope that you will remember your time at UCI fondly, and I hope you will tell the story of how your life was changed from being here. You are an Anteater for life and we could not be more proud to have you as one of our proud alumni.

Zot, Zot, Zot!



Willie L. Banks Jr., Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs

Claire Trevor School of the Arts

Dear Claire Trevor School of the Arts graduate:

Congratulations, graduating artists of 2023! You are artists and creative leaders launching into a brilliant future. We are incredibly proud of your success and excited about all that lies ahead.

This is a cultural moment where your vision and voice are needed more than ever before. You have the distinction of graduating from the University of California's only named school of the arts and one of the world's most preeminent research universities. In your time at UCI, you've had a front row seat to the power of inspiration to move others.

Complex challenges require complex teams of thinkers who will inspire others. Going forward into this next bold chapter, you should be highly confident that you will inspire others as an artist with the power to move people to see the world and approach things in new and heightened ways.

As graduates of the Claire Trevor School of the Arts, you know the creative process is just as important as the work you produce. You are citizen artists and impact partners. In many ways, our calling is to act intentionally since what we do has an impact now and for generations to come.

As the Dean of the School of the Arts, I've been excited and proud to share about your work and accomplishments. The bravery and boldness of your vision and voice inspires all of us in the school. You have made an impact that contributes to CTSA's excellence. We look forward to following your journey and remaining connected as you join our alumni family and inspire future artists who follow your steps on the pathways you forged here.

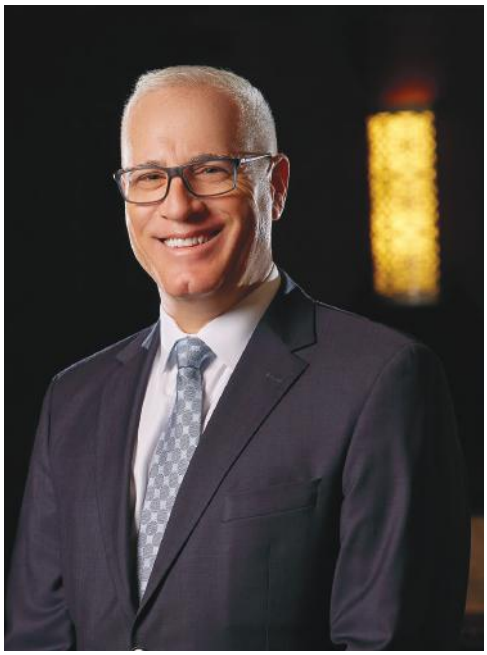
Please keep in touch with the wonderful circle of friends and colleagues you have made here and reach out to share with your professors and departments about your work on the path ahead. More than half of the careers in the future are those that you will invent! We're eager to see how you build from your experiences, contributing to broader fields, both in the creative economy and beyond, as artists and creative leaders.

A very heartfelt congratulations and best wishes as you embark into your brilliant future!

Tiffany Ana López, Ph.D
Dean, Claire Trevor School of the Arts

School of Biological Sciences

Dear Class of 2023,



Congratulations on your graduation from UC Irvine and the School of Biological Sciences. Through hard work, determination, courage and resilience, you have completed one of the most arduous undergraduate programs on the campus with the added challenge of a global pandemic. Now you are well-trained and positioned to achieve great things in your future endeavors.

Today, your diligence and accomplishments at UCI BioSci are being lauded at our Winter Commencement celebration. From tomorrow onward, as one of thousands of BioSci alumni, please remember what you have achieved, what you have learned here about science, technology and yourself, and apply it well. You will find that UCI has helped prepare you for your future, whatever opportunities and challenges it holds.

As you embark on the next phase of your lives, I encourage you to reflect proudly on your time here. Remember my prediction about your future: YOU can be a game-changer for good on our planet.

I urge you to stay committed to conquering your fears, attaining your goals and to stay connected with the school as your life's journey continues. That way we can always support you, participate in your successes, and provide you with the opportunity to inspire the generations of students who will follow in your footsteps through UCI BioSci.

Best wishes,

Frank M. LaFerla

Frank M. LaFerla, Ph.D.
Dr. Lionel and Fay Ng Dean and Distinguished Professor
UCI School of Biological Sciences

The Paul Merage School of Business

Dear Class of 2023,

As we gather for this momentous occasion, I extend my warmest congratulations to each of you on behalf of our esteemed faculty and dedicated staff at the UCI Paul Merage School of Business. Today marks not just the culmination of your academic journey but the beginning of a new chapter filled with endless possibilities and opportunities.

The world you are stepping into is ever-evolving, marked by rapid technological advancements and a global landscape that continues to redefine itself. Your time at the Merage School has equipped you with more than just knowledge; it has fostered resilience, adaptability, and a commitment to excellence. These qualities will be your compass as you navigate the complexities and opportunities of the modern business world.

Our school's mission, to mold leaders who can thrive amid change, has never been more relevant. You, as graduates, embody the spirit of this mission. Your ability to adapt, innovate, and lead with integrity is a testament to the strength of our community and the rigor of our programs.

In these times, the importance of collaboration, diversity, and inclusivity cannot be overstated. As Merage School alumni, you are uniquely positioned to champion these values in every endeavor you undertake. Your role in shaping a more equitable, sustainable, and prosperous future for all cannot be understated.

As you step forward into this exciting new phase, remember that the Merage School is not just your alma mater; it's a community and a network that you can always rely on. The connections you've made here, the experiences you've shared, and the lessons you've learned are all part of a lifelong journey of growth and discovery.

In closing, I want to reiterate how proud we are of your achievements. You've shown remarkable resilience and dedication, and I am confident that you will bring these qualities to bear in all your future endeavors. Congratulations once again on your well-deserved success. We can't wait to see the impact you will make in the world.

Zot! Zot! Zot!

Ian O. Williamson
Dean | UCI Paul Merage School of Business

School of Education

To the School of Education Class of 2023,

Congratulations on your successful commencement from the School of Education and the University of California, Irvine. Today, you take a giant step toward becoming our society's next generation of thought, industry and community leaders.

By completing a Doctor of Philosophy in Education, a Master of Arts in Teaching, a Bachelor of Arts in Education Sciences or the CalTeach program, you are well prepared to make a difference in the lives of others, and to be a positive force in education and the world.

The knowledge and skills you have acquired in your program will always be fundamental to building and preserving an educated citizenry. Meanwhile, the classroom and life experiences you have gained will be invaluable as you contribute to outstanding research, policy, curriculum, pedagogy and advocacy.

In the years ahead, I encourage you to remember the lessons you have learned during your time at UCI and be inspired to continue your pursuit of informal and formal learning. Education is a lifelong journey that does not end upon graduation but, rather, must continue to be nourished and cultivated in your daily lives.

I am grateful for your commitment to improving education for all, and look forward to seeing the positive impact you create in California, the nation and in your respective communities. I am confident that you will continue to grow, change and learn to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

Congratulations again to you and the families of all our graduates. Best wishes for great success in your future endeavors.

Frances Contreras

Frances Contreras, Ph.D.
Dean and Professor, School of Education
University of California, Irvine

The Henry Samueli School of Engineering

Dear Samueli School of Engineering Class of 2023,

Congratulations on this important and impressive milestone! You have made it through to earn your degree from UCI's Samueli School of Engineering. We are very proud of you and have every confidence in your continued success because being an Anteater Engineer is to have the superpower to deal with complex situations, go after hard problems, and not shy away from the big questions we are facing together as a global society.

Your engineering class has not only had to cope with the rigors of the engineering program, but also manage unprecedented difficulties brought on by the pandemic. The completion of your engineering degree is a testament to your resilience, as well as your agility, hard work and fortitude. I have no doubt that your experience at UCI will provide you with the knowledge, skills and leadership that you will need to impact and benefit us all in countless ways.

As you move forward in your careers, I encourage you to do the following: maintain our values and dedication to excellence and lifelong learning, commit to truth and fairness, and remember to embrace diversity and individual differences. As the newest graduating class of the Samueli School, I hope you stay connected through our Engineering Alumni Society, as well as the UCI Alumni Association.

Congratulations on your well-deserved achievement. Be courageous, be strong, be awesome. And use your new superpower for good in the world!

Zot, Zot, Zot!

Magnus Egerstedt, Ph.D.
Stacey Nicholas Dean of Engineering
UCI Samueli School of Engineering

Susan & Henry Samueli College of Health Sciences

Congratulations, class of 2023!

You are our eighth graduating class from the Susan & Henry Samueli College of Health Sciences! You have the distinction of being part of unprecedented growth here at UCI, among the first to occupy the newly-opened Susan & Henry Samueli College of Health Sciences building, the new Sue & Bill Gross School of Nursing and Health Sciences Hall, and the new home for the Susan Samueli Integrative Health Institute.

Our growth trajectory continues with the Falling Leaves Foundation Medical Innovation Building, one of the largest research buildings on the West Coast and purpose-built for elite teams of multidisciplinary collaborators. Soon, our new 9-acre UCI Health – Irvine complex will begin to care for patients in the Joe C. Wen Family Center for Advanced Care, followed by the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center and Ambulatory Care Center, and in 2025, the in-patient specialty hospital with 24/7 emergency services.

As you are undoubtedly aware, our mission at UCI Health Affairs is to break down disciplinary silos. Our very buildings are designed to foster collaboration across disciplines. As a 2023 graduate, go forth with this certainty: you graduate with the required education and skills to harness your passion, and the correct training — whether in medicine, nursing, pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences, or population and public health — to work together to tackle some of the most intractable problems in the healthcare landscape.

Given that a worldwide pandemic shaped a good part of your educational journey, you also know better than most that life can present formidable challenges. Class of 2023, you have been tested and you have proven that you have the talent, competence and temperament to turn the most unexpected and challenging events into opportunities for growth.

Now, the gates are open! As you step forward, ask yourself what you want to improve in the world. Is your passion preventing public health emergencies? Fostering emotional support for patients or providers? Do you want to tackle health equity? Or develop new ways to prevent disease and support wellness? Approach the world with an open mind and what you want to achieve will happen – with patience, persistence and compassion. Of course, you will continue to grow and develop. Experience is one of the great advantages of aging.

We hope that as you grow and develop, you will visit often, and perhaps even choose to continue your own mission to discover, teach and heal here at UCI. Please know that we will remain committed to helping you achieve your goals after you graduate. We measure our own success by your accomplishments and satisfaction in service. You will forever be a member of the Anteater family. Come back and share your experiences.

All the very best to you in this new and exciting phase of your life journey,

Steven A. N. Goldstein, MA, MD, PhD, FAAP
Vice Chancellor, Health Affairs

UCI Health Affairs

Program in Public Health

Congratulations to the Class of 2023. What a wonderful day it is for each of you and an honor for me to be here on this special occasion. Today, we celebrate your tremendous academic accomplishments and resilience in the face of such unprecedented times. What a privilege it has been to witness the Class of 2023 and members of the campus community come together in inspiring ways to address the many public health challenges we have faced this year. I commend you for your hard work and dedication, as well as your ability to not just survive, but thrive.

The COVID-19 pandemic called for quick, decisive action to limit the spread of infection, and we saw the power of public health authority on protecting all our lives. Many of you started your academic career during this unprecedented time and it has been a privilege to witness the Class of 2023 and members of the campus community come together in inspiring ways to address the many public health challenges we have faced.

Your commitment to public health is now more important than ever, and I thank you for choosing this field. You are the future of the field. You are the next generation of public health practitioners, leaders, and advocates who will not only rebuild our public health infrastructure but also protect our communities as we venture into the unknown. You will lead with compassion, drive, and the desire to make a difference in the lives of those around you, which all lie at the heart of what we do in public health. You will help usher in a future that is more sustainable, equitable, and just.

I will not tell you the road will be easy—it seldom is. For every achievement, there are stumbles, fumbles, and falls. Embrace mistakes. They serve a purpose: to help you learn. The ups and downs, the laughing and crying, the pit in your stomach, and the excitement in your bones are all part of the road to success.

Thank you for the dedication and compassion you showed through your work. Please know how needed your public health skills are today as you become advocates for this field amongst naysayers. As you set out to improve the health and well-being of your communities, be confident in the knowledge gained during your time at UCI, and remember that the field of public health is made stronger by having you in it.

We will always take pride in your achievements, both now and in the future. We hope you will continue to engage with UCI Public Health and share your achievements as you move forward in your careers and personal lives. I encourage you to stay involved and support our activities, scholarships, and programs as our newest members of the Anteater alumni community. The connection to UCI will last a lifetime.

Congratulations, graduates of the Class of 2023!

Bernadette Boden-Albala, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Founding Dean, Program in Public Health

School of Humanities

On this happy occasion of your commencement, you are each concluding your study at UC Irvine and embarking on a new life as the proud holder of a University of California degree in a humanities field.

Let me be the first to congratulate you. You are a select group who worked tirelessly to be admitted to UCI, and to excel in your majors. You put in hard nights of reading and writing papers and studying for exams and meeting your requirements one by one. Your goal was not just to get a good grade on one assignment, or completing a course, or even meeting all the requirements of your major. It was always something that lies beyond the boundaries of the campus and its program: opening up the opportunities in your life that your UCI degree makes possible, and that at this moment of commencement you can't even yet fully foresee. These include the possibility to go on to more advanced study in graduate or professional school; to make your mark in government, media, or business; or to lead and serve in your community, at home or perhaps elsewhere in the world.

The humanities focus on the histories and cultures of the world, the images and stories we use to represent the human experience, and the theories and concepts that we use to make sense of our world. Human meaning-making is an ongoing and ever-evolving process, and the skills you have gained in understanding and contributing to it never go out of date or lose their relevance. Our world is changing at an extraordinary pace. We need humanities-trained leaders and thinkers like you to help us to make sense of it all, make conscious and ethical choices, and imagine new ways of living and working in a radically changed environment.

You will bring the skills you have learned here—to listen and read closely, to think critically and analytically, to interpret texts and images, and to write with clarity and power—to all the work you have ahead of you. We have prepared you not just for a job, but for a career of your own making, which may have many new turns and changes along the way.

But through the lenses of the humanities, we have also prepared you to appreciate better the beauty, complexity, and richness of the world, to experience it with depth and knowledge. That is not just an enhancement to your career or your earning power; it is the basis of a richer, more authentic, and more meaningful life.

I wish you every success in your future, and the deepest appreciation for what you have given us by your presence in the School of Humanities during your studies.

Congratulations and enjoy your commencement!

Tyrus Miller, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Humanities

Donald Bren School of Information & Computer Sciences

The world runs on technology: from artificial intelligence to big data, from digital media and learning to digital health, from cybersecurity to human-machine interaction. These technologies represent only a few of the cutting-edge areas that faculty, students and alumni from the Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences (ICS) have been advancing, making the world a better, safer, accessible, and more inclusive place through the exploration of emerging information technologies, innovative and broad computing curricula, and interdisciplinary collaborations that address key societal needs.

As students of ICS, one of the first computing-focused schools in the nation and the only one on the West Coast, you have helped it grow into one of the largest, most enriching, and most diverse computing programs in the country. You have shown incredible creativity and entrepreneurial spirit during your time at UC Irvine, and you are now prepared to lead the way in creating a bright future for society.

As alumni of ICS, you will have many good reasons and excellent opportunities to remain connected with our School. Whether you are continuing your education or joining the workforce, remember that you are now part of a growing ICS alumni network with over 15,000 members who want to see you succeed. Please stay in touch so that we can celebrate your successes and help you connect with other accomplished ICS alums.

Congratulations to the Class of 2023! The ICS faculty and staff take great pride in your accomplishments and look forward to watching you continue to make a positive difference in the world.

Zot! Zot! Zot!

Marios Papaefthymiou
Professor of Computer Science
Ted and Janice Smith Family Foundation Dean
Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences

School of Physical Sciences

Congratulations on finishing your degree in the UCI School of Physical Sciences! This may feel like the end, but, really, it's just the beginning — a bright beginning for the next phase of your life, one made all the more brilliant by your years of preparation in the halls of our School. Whether you plan to pursue graduate or professional studies, or you plan to start your career right away, UCI Physical Sciences offers a doorway to success unlike any other.

Over 40% of you graduates conducted undergraduate research, and many of you successfully applied to graduate and professional programs. That, and I applaud the many of you who took the initiative to participate in our mentor program — an experience that will continue working its health into your lives long after you leave UCI. We invite you to return as mentors to coach the next generations of students, and share with them the experiences of what will no doubt be shimmering careers.

As a Physical Sciences alum, you may dedicate yourself to the most abstract mathematical proof, or to the most tangible attempt to alleviate human suffering. Some of you may spend a large part of your life trying to understand a single particle, others may want to grasp the big-picture of the whole Universe or how the Earth's climate will change over the next century. There is great value in each of these pursuits, as well as the whole spectrum of careers between these limits. The faculty and staff wish you the best of luck as you continue to pursue your passion and make a difference in the world.

Congratulations again on completing such a demanding degree. The world needs quality mathematicians and scientists, so be sure to contribute, expand and share your vast knowledge and experience as much as you can.

Keep active!
Bring enthusiasm to all your endeavors!
Keep in touch!

Professor James S. Bullock
Dean, School of Physical Sciences

School of Social Ecology

Dear Class of 2023:

Congratulations on completing your degree from the School of Social Ecology!

We are proud of your accomplishments, especially during this historic time. You likely began your college years during the pandemic and successfully adapted to finish strong, all while also completing your many hours of field study. We commend you on your perseverance.

As we celebrate your achievements, we wish you success along the next path of your journey. You earned your degree from our school, a leader in interdisciplinary research, team science, and community-embedded scholarship. You have studied and researched alongside faculty members and fellow students who share a commitment to understanding human behavior and seek to make the world a better place. Our research, courses and field study opportunities are oriented at solving some of the most crucial social and environmental challenges of our time, including issues involving the coronavirus pandemic, mass incarceration, environmental sustainability, homelessness, poverty and mental health. With this stage of your education now completed, we encourage you to take what you have learned to become part of the solution.

Our school also emphasizes the importance of equity and justice. We have prepared you to think about how you can help advance a more equitable society. We will look to you with great hope as you apply that greater sense of purpose in your next endeavors.

No matter where you are headed next or what you will do, please know that we take pride in you and your accomplishments. And, as alumni of Social Ecology, we hope you will please remember to stay connected so we can continue to cheer on your successes.

Congratulations on your graduation and go out and make a difference!

Best wishes,

Jon B. Gould
Dean, School of Social Ecology

School of Social Sciences

Congratulations, UCI social sciences graduates! I'm so proud to welcome you as our newest members of the Social Sciences Alumni Network. With your graduation today, you are joining an elite group of more than 62,000 social sciences changemakers who can be found everywhere from the halls of justice in D.C. to capitals around the world engaged in work that's truly changing lives. Our alumni are making a difference through entrepreneurial endeavors from Northgate to Northern Africa, in courtrooms across the nation, boardrooms in some of the world's top companies, and classrooms around the globe training our next generation of leaders.

While each of your pathways to this degree has been unique, your shared experiences as an Anteater will stay with you long after leaving campus today. And no matter your story, you've all shown the true resiliency of the soc sci Anteater spirit.

As you embark on your next chapter, your individual versions of "what's next," I challenge each of you to continue pursuing a future that makes the world a better place than you've found it. Be bold, always break the mold, and be boundaryless in your pursuit.

Congratulations, social sciences graduates of the class of 2023.

Zot, zot, zot!

Bill Maurer
Dean, School of Social Sciences
Professor, Department of Anthropology and School of Law
Director, Institute for Money, Technology and Financial Inclusion

Graduate Division

Commence. Begin. Launch. Arise. Come into being.

December's Commencement ceremonies at UCI represent the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and determination. They also represent the beginning of the next phase of your lives.

It is my honor and pleasure to congratulate you for earning degrees during the 2023-24 academic year, as well as those who are here to celebrate with you. No one can complete this journey without a great support system.

Commencement is a time to reflect, but it is also an opportunity to publicly recognize the transition from a student to a leader and innovator in today's ever-changing world. The world is better for the critical thinking skills and knowledge you will put to work in a positive and impactful way. You have earned the highest degree in your discipline, and you are the future we await.

As of this moment you are now part of a proud family of UCI alumni, and I hope you stay in touch and keep us informed of your accomplishments. Celebrate today and know that we look forward to celebrating your accomplishments for years to come.

Gillian Hayes
Kleist Professor of Informatics
Vice Provost for Graduate Education
Dean of the Graduate Division

MASTER OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Shubham Abhale
Harsh Agarwal
Vanshita Agarwal
Manav Ahuja
Hardik Asher
Adith Bharadwaj Banavara Chandrashekar
Mustansir Bartanwala
Tanmay Bhagwat
Mandar Milind Bhalerao
Keshav Bhalla
Dhruvil Bhaveshbhai Bhatt
Aditya Anil Bhave
Johnny Castillo
Sayak Chattopadhyay
Jiaxi Chen
Utkarsh Chhapekar
Niki Chong
Yifan Chu
Brian Chung
Yinfeng Cong
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Chi Yip Wang
Dixcey Wang
Hanying Wang
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Yinpei Wang
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Zhengda Wang
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Wei Wei
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Maxwell Xu
Sophia Rose Yan
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Yifei Yan
Anzhi Yang
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Ruoxi Yin
Zeyu Zeng
Zijian Zeng
Guoyang Zhang
Huiying Zhang
Kang Zhang
Yiming Zhang
Yixuan Zhang
Tianyi Zhao
CUM LAUDE †
Xuan Zhao
Yishan Zheng
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Hanqing Zhou
Selena Zhu
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International Studies

Ebony Michelle Acosta
Gloria Sarahi Albiter
Anthony Au
Zijun Chen
Mirabelle Chernick
SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Madeline Amara Cole
SUMMA CUM LAUDE †
Julio Antonio Bordeos Dela Cruz
Cynthia Esmaili
Zhengfu Fan
Yifeng Fu
SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Adriana Galvez Aguilar
Yunfei Ge
Rui Han
Celeste Trinity Pasamonte Henry
Abigail Maria Herrera
Shannon Marie Horan
Kaehou Hui
Junqi Ji
Shengbo Jin
Alex Sejoong Kim
Hyunmin Kim
Liyuan Lei
Huizhe Li
Aubrey Rae Littlefield
Alan Liu
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Lucas Joseph Maher
Andrew Martin
CUM LAUDE
Sofia Michelle Medina
Celeste Amaris Mejia
Carolina Morcate Enriquez
Ellie Nagatomi
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Andre Ngo
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Annika Palacio
Enrique Luis Plascencia

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Zoha Fatima Raza
Leah Yurim Seo
J. Wang
Xuanyi Wang
Jintong Wu
Yixuan Xiao
Chen Yang
Shufan Yang
Yc You
Tianyu Zhao

Language Science

Metzli Aguinaga
Neel Gore
Ayanna Nesbeth
Claire Marinne Oconnell
Meadow Quibodeaux

Political Science

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Madelyn Isabel Aguilera
Sanah Akbari
Safaa Mohamed Ali
Menatallah Mohamed Alsalamony
Andres Manuel Avila
Madeline Christine Barnes
Brooke A. Bell
Brian De Jesus Bustos
Nataly Esmeralda Caal
Jian Choi
Adam Giovanni Cornejo
Juan Corrales III
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Omar Dahman
Juan Carlos Delgadillo
Patrick Nicholas Fell
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Julianna Garcia
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Zacaira Laryce Willson
Grace Elizabeth Carey Wilson
Kyle Cy Wong
Kyle J. Yinger
Rongyi Zhu

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Amir Mahmoud Abdolvahabi
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Kauthar Ghassan Alaghbar
Noor Alasker
Anait Arushanyan
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Melisa Maide Cakir
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Alma Luisa Cazares-Contreras
Raelyn Pravika Chandra
Terrence Michael Chapa
Chi-Wei Chen
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Kexin Cheng
Hannah Cheung
Taylor Chow
Gus Yvoty Dasilva
Vianca De Jeronimo
Zara Ailay Delawary
Morgan Marie Dickinson
Minh Doan
Miles Damoni Duncan
Amin Adam Eghbalian
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Ashley Rose Hsu-Yeh
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Yedi Wang
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Kyle Christian Cuniberti
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Alma Gabriela Landa Pacheco
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Julia Jin-Hee Lee
Lauren Harin Lee

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Fengyuan Lian
Jeonghwan Lim
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Qingyu Luo
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Jonathan Ramirez Marquez
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Eric Reyes
Noor Mousa Rifai
Briana Rivas
Tamara Rshtuni Rizer
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Aminah Schebah Sakhi
Joel Eduardo Sanchez
Luke Michael Spillane
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Sabir Syed Tasmir Taqi
Trixie Zitclaly Tiongco
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Vicki Shen
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Jennifer Polet Velasco Apodaca
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CUM LAUDE †
Ethan Nguyen
SUMMA CUM LAUDE †
Ziqi Shen

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Giovanna Lisbeth Cortes
Jasmine Grace Ignacio Dizon
Samantha Lee Figgins
Kelsy Heather Gomez
Lillian Ly Huynh
Eleanor Sachie Kim
Celine S. Kogane
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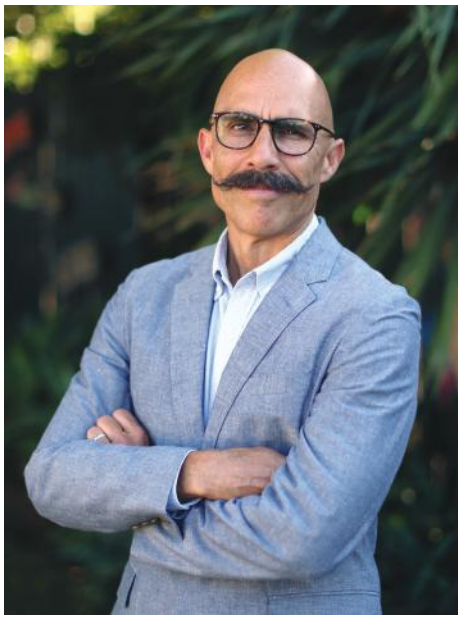
UCI Alumni Association



To the Class of 2023:

Congratulations — you did it! What an accomplishment. The early mornings, the late nights, the cramming, the long weekends… You did what it took, and you are now a graduate of UC Irvine. Let that soak in.

If I remember correctly, right about now, you're thinking, "what's next!?" And that's admirable – you're ambitious or you wouldn't be here. But like past presidents of the Alumni Association, I'll offer similar advice: Before you jump back into action, take a minute, and recognize this powerful and proud moment. This is your time. Your time to relish in the hard work, the dedication, and the accomplishment. You put your mind to it, applied yourself, and accomplished a major life milestone. Please, don't let this moment pass without serious reflection. You should be proud.

I remember my UCI graduation day. As a first gen graduate, I was proud of the moment, I recognized the importance of it, and looked forward to a bright future.

On this day as you celebrate your hard-earned accomplishment, I hope that you'll also take a moment to express gratitude to all who have journeyed by your side providing support and guidance — your family, friends, and faculty, of course. But also, your Anteater community. In fact, know that with each step forward, your fellow Anteaters go with you and that you will forever be a part of the bold and pioneering UCI alumni family!

As an alum you will always represent UCI, and I hope you do so with pride. I encourage you to stay connected, remain involved and strengthen your relationship with the university and Anteaters of all graduating classes past and future. Our online mentoring platform, The Anteater Network (antnet.uci.edu), is a wonderful way to do just that!

The UCI Alumni network has more than 240,000 members and accomplished individuals who are invested in your success and can help you increase your connection to our alma mater. As an active member of the Alumni Association, you will help continue a tradition that makes UCI and the alumni network itself stronger. Find out how you can leverage the benefits and services of being a member, including The Anteater Network, access to online research databases and UC libraries across the system, career services and networking events for young alumni.

Fifty-eight years ago, UCI was established with a vision to become a driving force for discovery and innovation serving our local, national, and global communities. You leave today helping to realize that vision. I invite you to stay connected to your Anteater family no matter where you go in the world. Engage with our UCI Alumni at regional events, participate in our online community and be part of the more than 38 chapters and networks across the world. Keep in mind it's not only what you know that will drive your career forward, but also who you know ;)

As you take those next steps forward, know that there are many individuals who are in your corner cheering you on — your family, your friends, your professors, and your fellow alumni. You are now a college graduate (of one of the top universities in the nation, mind you) and we are so proud of you, Anteater!

Zot! Zot!

Derek Sabori '95, MBA '02
President, UCI Alumni Association
Proud Life Member

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The UCI Mace

The Mace leads the Commencement processional and is carried by a member of the UCI Alumni Association Board of Directors.

The names of each UCI Chancellor are engraved on the top

Carved from California oak, the Mace is designed to resemble the nose of an anteater, UCI's mascot.

The UCI Alumni Association presented the UCI Mace to the campus on May 12, 2000.

UCI

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